Vol. IX. Numb. 37.

THE OBSERVATOR.

On a Letter from an Officer in the Army about the Addreſſes of the Faction, and the Thoughts of the Army concerning their Seditious Addreſſes. On the Noble Addreſs from Pembrokeſhire, *with farther Remarks on the High-Church Addreſſes; their Hatred to the Queen, Parliament, Miniſtry, General, and Army. A Parallel betwixt our Seditious Prieſts, and thoſe of the* Faliſci. *The Inconſiſtency of the Faction.*

From Saturday, May 20, to Wedneſday, May 24. 1710.

Countrym. I Was in Company t'other Day, Maſter, where I heard a very Ingenious Gentleman commenting upon our Highflying Addreſſes; and among other Things I could not but take Notice of a Letter he produc'd from an Officer in our Army under his Grace the Duke of *Marlborough*, wherein there were very Judicious Remarks upon the Addreſſes of the Faction. The Gentleman wrote in a plain Soldier-like Stile, and expreſs'd not only his own Senſe, but that of the Army, who, he ſays, are not a little concern'd that while they are venturing their Lives and Fortunes in Defence of the Common Liberties of *Europe*, and particularly of thoſe of *Great Britain*, wherein God has bleſſed them with Uncommon Succeſs, there ſhould be a Party at home, who audaciouſly ſtrike at the Foundation of all our Ancient Rights and Priviledges, and petition for that Slavery againſt which the Nation pays them for Fighting. I was particularly pleas'd with his Account, that though Endeavours have not been wanting to infect the Army abroad as well as the Silly and Unthinking Mob at Home with Principles of Sedition, it has been without Effect, and that they do very much reſent the Unduti-ful Behaviour of the Faction to the Queen and Parliament, for whoſe Honour, and in Purſuance of whoſe Joint Reſolves, they are every Day venturing their Lives.

Obſ. I am very glad to hear that, *Roger*; they who have read any Thing of the *Roman* Hiſtory muſt needs remember that when Seditions were rais'd at Home, it frequently infected their Armies abroad, and no Thanks to the Faction that their Practices have not had the like Influence upon ours, which was certainly their Deſign. I am glad in particular that the Army expreſſes ſuch a Grateful Senſe of the Proceedings and Zeal of the Parliament, which the Faction inſulted, and endeavour now by their Addreſſes to have diſſolv'd, tho' by their Quick Diſpatch with the Supplies, they have enabled our Troops to open the Campaign ſo Glorioufly, to the Perpetual Ignominy of the *French* Tyrant, whoſe Impregnable Lines, and Numerous Armies of Slaves, have not been able to ſtop the Progreſs of our Forces, animated by True *Britiſh* Courage, and ſpirited by the Conduct of our Victorious General and Chief Officers, to baffle that Cauſe abroad which the Faction endeavour to ſupport at home.

Countrym. I am ſatisfied, Maſter, that the *French* King, and his Alms-people at St. *Germains*, thought to have found as great a Defection among our Red-coats in the *Netherlands* as they procur'd among our Black-coats in *England*; and that they doubted not to have rais'd a Noiſie Faction againſt our Generals abroad as they have done againſt the Queen and Parliament at home; but, bleſſed be God, they are miſtaken, Her Majeſty is happy in a Victorious and Obedient Army in the Field, though ſhe be teaz'd with a Rebellious and Factious Party in the Church. The Gentlemen of *Pembrokeſhire* very judiciouſly obſerve in their Addreſs, printed in the *Flying-Poſt* of *Thurſday* laſt, that the Party make uſe of the very ſame Methods they did before the laſt Civil War, which prov'd Fatal to our Church, as by Law eſtabliſh'd, and to Her Majeſty's Royal Grandfather, when they advanc'd enſlaving Principles from the Pulpit, the Supremacy of the Church above that of the Crown, and encited and promoted Riotous and Tumultuous Aſſemblies, for influencing Parliamentary Juſtice, which Jealouſies and Animoſities were fomented then, as now by the Emiſſaries of *France*; but I am particularly pleas'd, Maſter, to think how much the Pretender and his Patron are mortify'd, to find that our Gentlemen in Scarlet-coats do by their Swords give an Effectual Confutation to the Falſe, Clamorous, and Seditious Addreſſes, promoted by thoſe Apoſtates who wear Crape-gowns, and fly in the Face both of Church and State, as their Bigotted Followers do every Day in that of our Generals and Army, whom they ſacrifice to the Slaves of the *French* Tyrant, tho' they dare not look 'em in the Face. How often ſince the beginning of this Campaign have the Wretched Faction given out that the Duke and our Army was defeated? How many Times have they depriv'd our General of his Battoon of Command, the Lord High Treaſurer of his White-Staff, our Secretaries of the Seals, and what Sort of Succeſſors they had provided for them, and for the Preſent Houſe of Commons, is palpable enough from their Addreſſes and Seditious Diſcourſes.

Obſ. 'Tis our Happineſs, *Roger*, that thoſe Men have pull'd off the Mask, and diſcover'd their True Features to the People of *Great Britain*; and that while they blaſphemouſly pretend to give the Queen Obedience without Reſerve, which is due to God alone, they fly in Her Face at the ſame Time, and openly by their Addreſſes contradict Her Speeches from the Throne: They go on ſtill to inculcate the Danger of the Church under Her Adminiſtration, to blacken the Means by which the late Happy Revolution was effecten, to ſap the Foundation of Her Majeſty's Title, and of the *Hannover* Succeſſion, and to introduce that Arbitrary and Unaccountable Power which Her Majeſty has abjur'd, and which the Parliament has condemn'd by Solemn Acts, particularly by that of the Declaration of Rights upon which Her Majeſty accepted the Crown; and while they pretend to be the only Faithful Subjects and Aſſerters of the Prerogative, and to a Loyalty that knows no Bounds, endeavour by Tumults and Seditious Addreſſes to force Her Majeſty to change Her Miniſtry, and diſſolve Her Parliament. Certainly, *Roger*, the People of the

the Nation can never be ſo blind as not to ſee whither thoſe Men would lead 'em.

Countrym. Everybody muſt ſee that does not wilfully ſhut their Eyes, Maſter; therefore the Gentlemen of *Pembrokeſhire* had Juſt Reaſon to expreſs their Concern at the Succeſs our Antient Enemies the *French* obtain among us at home, while Her Majeſty's Arms, by God's Wonderful Bleſſing, under the Direction of Her Victorious General and Chief Officers, ſubdue them abroad. Nay, Maſter, I can tell you the Faction is now become ſo impudent as publickly to ſell the Pretender's Picture with Her Majeſty's Titles engraven upon it at the ſame Shops where they ſell that of his Trumpeter of Sedition, *Sacheverell*, though it be expreſs Treaſon by the Statute, and particularly by the 6th of *Anne*, *Chap.* 7. in any Perſon by writing, Printing, or ſpeaking, to maintain that the Pretended Prince of *Wales* has any Right to the Crown of theſe Realms; but we are not to wonder at that, Maſter, ſince the Pulpit Incendiaries have had the Impudence to preach ſuch Doctrine to Her Majeſty's Face as make Her a Rebel and Uſurper, and ſince the ſame is done every Day by Seditious Addreſſes, which are ecchoed through the Nation, and ſtuffed with Principles of Slavery, Bigotry, and Perſecution.

Obſ. I remember that a Lord High Treaſurer of *England* was impeach'd in the Reign of King *Charles* II. *Roger*, for putting his Majeſty upon Arbitrary Meaſures of Government; therefore I think the Faction ought to beware how they aſſert Loyalty without Bounds, and an Unaccountable Power and Obedience without Reſerve, againſt Standing Laws, ſince ſome that were then in Force, and ſeem'd to give too much Countenance to the Abſolute Power of the Prince, could not protect ſo great a Man from ſuch an Impeachment. Though Her Majeſty (which is our Happineſs) is Proof againſt all ſuch Temptations, and is too Religious to aim at a Power which ſhe has ſo ſolemnly abjur'd, and knows to have been Fatal to ſo many of Her Predeceſſors; yet the Crime of the Faction is nothing the leſs puniſhable, that their Treaſonable Cant is deſpis'd, and takes no Effect. 'Tis true, they would Bully the Queen and the Nation by the Pretended Doctrine and Authority of the Church, which they make to overtop the Laws of the State; but they have been ſo frequently beat at that Weapon, that one would wonder they ſhould ever make uſe of it again. 'Tis of no better Mettle than their Mopſtaves and Broomſticks, which they were forc'd to throw down and ſcamper at the Firſt Appearance of Her Majeſty's Guards during their late Rebellion. That Weapon was ſufficiently blunted at the Trial of their Scandalous Ring-leader, and will never be found Armour of Proof when it comes to be tried at *Weſtminſter-hall*, St. *Stephen*'s Chapel, or the Houſe of Lords. I remember a Paſſage in *Livy*, which I think does admirably well ſuit our Seditious Clergy, and their Begotted Followers. The Prieſts of the *Faliſci* and *Tarquinii* finding their Countrymen were always defeated by the *Romans*, had Recourſe to this Stratagem: They came on before their Army with Flaming Torches in their Hands, and Painted Fillets, reſembling Snakes, about their Heads, which hanging down over their Sholders, and waving to and fro by the Wind, ſeem'd to be real Serpents. This, together with their Furious and Frantick Geſtures, and the Strangeneſs of the Sight, daunted the *Romans* at Firſt, and made them give back; but when their Generals laugh'd at and reproach'd them for being ſcared like Children with Bugbears, they ruſh'd with Fury upon the Enemy and their Prieſts, gave them a Shameful Defeat, and made their Ridiculous Stragagem and their own Silly Fears the Subject of Catches and Drolls. The Application is eaſie, *Roger*; our Leaders, the Queen and Parliament, have ſtifled thoſe Serpets, and quench'd thoſe Firebrands, of Paſſive-Obedience and Non-reſiſtance by a Parliamentary Sentence; ſhall we then ſuffer our ſelves to be ſcar'd any more with thoſe Routed Bugbears, and ſuffer the whole State to be inſulted by a Factious Party, who uſurp the Name of the Church? Shall we ſuffer them to Father a Doctrine upon her that ſhe has ſo ſolemnly renounc'd by her Office for the 5th of *November*, and by taking the Oaths to the Preſent Government upon the Foot of the Declaration of Rights. I wiſh one of the Main Pillars of the Faction would conſider a Piece, of which he is ſuppos'd not to be ignorant, call'd, *The Thoughts of a Private Perſon about the Juſtice of the Gentlemens Undertaking at* York, *Nov.* 1688, wherein is ſhew'd, *That 'tis neither againſt Scripture nor Moral Honeſty to defend their Juſt and Legal Rights againſt the Illegal Invades of them.* If ſome Men be not old enough yet to be wiſe and ſteady, I hope the Nation is not ſo young as to imitate them in their Folly and Changeable Temper, or to think that the Faction is become more infallible in 1710 than they were in 1688.

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